

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JASPER, INDIANA
SEPTEMBER 22, 2010**

A meeting of the Common Council of the City of Jasper, Indiana, was held on Wednesday, September 22, 2010, in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 610 Main Street, Jasper, Indiana.

Call to Order. Presiding Officer Mayor William J. Schmitt called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call.

Mayor William J. Schmitt	Present
Council members:	
John Schroeder	Present
David Prechtel	Present
Thomas Schmidt	Present
Ambrose 'Butch' Schitter	Present
Kevin Manley	Absent
Randall Buchta	Present
Raymond Howard	Present
City Attorney Sandra Hemmerlein	Present
Clerk-Treasurer Juanita S. Boehm	Present

Clerk-Treasurer Juanita Boehm announced that in order to have a quorum for the meeting, a majority of the council members must be in attendance. Six of seven council members were in attendance which is a majority; therefore, there was a quorum for the meeting.

Approval of the Minutes:

The following minutes were distributed to and examined by the Council:

1. August 18, 2010 regular Common Council meeting.
2. August 18, 2010 memorandum from the comprehensive plan training session
3. August 24, 2010 memorandum from the joint executive session about the power plant proposals
4. September 13, 2010 memorandum from the joint executive session to interview those companies who submitted proposals for the utilization of the power plant
5. July 1, 2010 minutes from the special meeting for the 2011 budget hearings

A **motion** was made by Council member Ambrose 'Butch' Schitter and seconded by Council member Thomas Schmidt to approve the minutes as published. Motion carried 6-0.

Boy Scouts. There were five boy scouts from Troop 185 in attendance who are working on their Citizenship in the Community badge. In attendance were Brayden Gehlhausen, Seth Heim, Jack Mendel, Peyton Gentry, and Craig Shepherd.

Forest Park students. Also in attendance were Al Altman, Tessa Broughton, and Brian Welp. They are students from a government class at Forest Park High School who want to learn more about local government. The students said they can receive class credit for attending such meetings as this one.

Utility Service Board. General Manager of Utilities Gerald ‘Bud’ Hauersperger gave a report on the regular monthly Utility Service Board meeting held on September 20, 2010. Copies of the minutes are supplied to each council member.

OCRA grant application for Beaver Lake dam project. Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission Director Lisa Gehlhausen said in conjunction with the \$2,228,640.00 grant the City received from the Economic Development Administration for the Beaver Lake dam project, she would like permission to submit a grant application to the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs [OCRA] for \$760,360.00 and permission for the Mayor to sign the documents. If the OCRA grant is also awarded to the City, the City’s share in the cost of this project will be \$315,000. Gehlhausen is estimating the grant to be awarded within 60 days of submission.

A **motion** was made by Council member John Schroeder and seconded by Council member Randy Buchta to submit a grant application to OCRA. Motion carried 6-0.

Disaster Recovery II funds. Gehlhausen said an OCRA grant application for Disaster Recovery II funds for the North side Wastewater project for \$650,000 was also submitted. If the City is awarded this grant, the local match for this project will be \$136,365. This grant will be awarded on Friday, September 24th.

The Utility Service Board recommended applying for the OCRA Community Focus funds grant for this same project if the City does not receive any Disaster Recovery II funds. The maximum the City can apply for from this program is \$600,000. That would increase the cost share from the City to \$186,365.

This application is due on October 22nd. If an application is submitted, a public hearing would need to be held prior to the Common Council meeting on October 20th.

Executive session. Mayor Schmitt said the Utility Service Board set a joint executive session with the Council on September 23, 2010 at 7:30 a.m. to continue evaluating the power plant proposals and interviews that were received on September 13th and asked if the Council wants to participate.

A **motion** was made by Council member David Prechtel and seconded by Council member Ray Howard to concur with the Utility Service Board’s decision to hold a joint executive session that is advertised for 7:30 a.m. tomorrow. Motion carried 6-0.

Jasper Action Team Economic Development Incentives proposal

Rick Stradtner, a member of the Jasper Action Team which is a committee of the Jasper Chamber of Commerce, said he and five other members are on an

incentives subcommittee. He then introduced the other members of the subcommittee, Nancy Eckerle, Andy Welsh, Eric Schue, Jim Skillman, and Alan Johnson.

Stradtner then distributed copies of the Economic Development Incentives proposal prepared by the Jasper Action Team and said the incentives subcommittee was here to present the proposal. He said the committee thinks now is the time for such a plan and they think this plan will help Jasper move ahead of the communities we compete against. Each subcommittee member reported on different aspects of the proposal and explained why they think Jasper needs an Economic Development package.

Nancy Eckerle, Director of the Jasper Chamber of Commerce, did the introduction part of the proposal and explained what tools are available.

Eric Schue, an attorney with Bingham McHale, explained how the plan applies to Jasper.

Dr. Alan Johnson, Dean of Vincennes University-Jasper presented the body of the plan.

Andy Welsh, with Sell4Free Welsh Realty, explained some of the information contained in the Appendix portions of the proposal.

After the presentation, Mayor Schmitt said he appreciates the work this team put into its proposal but the City does not have much money in the current economy to invest in new initiatives and added that legal and accounting firms the City works with will have to determine the plan's feasibility before the Common Council could seriously consider it.

Council members David Prechtel and Ambrose 'Butch' Schitter thanked the Jasper Action Team for preparing this proposal.

ORDINANCE NO. 2010-18 AN ORDINANCE AFFIXING SALARIES AND WAGES FOR THE ELECTED OFFICIALS AND THE CIVIL CITY EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF JASPER, INDIANA, FOR THE YEAR 2011

A motion was made by Council member Thomas Schmidt, seconded by Council member Ambrose 'Butch' Schitter and approved 6-0 to consider the ordinance for one reading only. Thereafter, a motion was made by Council member Randy Buchta and seconded by Council member David Prechtel to read the ordinance by title only. Motion carried 6-0. The ordinance was so read. Thereafter, a motion was made by Council member Ray Howard and seconded by Council member Thomas Schmidt to pass and adopt Ordinance No. 2010-18. Motion carried 6-0.

Under Discussion, City Attorney Sandra Hemmerlein said this ordinance increases wages \$10.00 per week or 25 cents per hour for full time employees for 2011.

ORDINANCE NO. 2010-19 AN ORDINANCE AFFIXING SALARIES AND WAGES FOR THE UTILITY EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF JASPER, INDIANA, FOR THE YEAR 2011

A motion was made by Council member John Schroeder, seconded by Council member Randy Buchta and approved 6-0 to consider the ordinance for one reading only. Thereafter, a motion was made by Council member Ambrose 'Butch' Schitter and seconded by Council member Thomas Schmidt to have the ordinance read by title only. Motion carried 6-0. The ordinance was so read. Thereafter, a motion was made by Council member David Prechtel and seconded by Council member Thomas Schmidt to pass and adopt Ordinance No. 2010-19. Motion carried 6-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 2010-20 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING ADDITIONAL MONEY FOR THE CITY OF JASPER, INDIANA, FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2010.

This ordinance contains additional appropriations and reductions for the budget year 2010.

A notice to taxpayers appeared in the Herald on September 11, 2010. Mayor Schmitt then asked for public comments. No comments were received.

A motion was made by Council member Ambrose 'Butch' Schitter, seconded by Council member Randy Buchta and approved 6-0 to consider the ordinance for one reading only. Thereafter, a motion was made by Council member Thomas Schmidt, seconded by Council member David Prechtel and approved 6-0 to have the ordinance read by title only. The ordinance was so read. Thereafter, a motion was made by Council member Ambrose 'Butch' Schitter and seconded by Council member Thomas Schmidt to pass and adopt Ordinance No. 2010-20. Motion carried 6-0.

Under discussion, Financial Coordinator Sharon Sander said the ordinance contains the appropriation changes that the department heads requested at the July 1, 2010 budget hearing.

ORDINANCE NO. 2010-21 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING MONEY FOR THE CITY OF JASPER, INDIANA, FOR THE YEAR 2011

This ordinance contains the 2011 budget appropriations.

A motion was made by Council member Randy Buchta, seconded by Council member Ray Howard and approved 6-0 to read the ordinance by title only on the first reading. The ordinance was so read. Thereafter, a motion was made by Council member Ambrose 'Butch' Schitter, seconded by Council member Thomas Schmidt and approved 6-0 to approve the ordinance on the first reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 2010-22 AN ORDINANCE LEVYING TAXES AND FIXING THE RATE OF TAXATION FOR THE CITY OF JASPER, INDIANA, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2011

This ordinance sets the tax rate for the 2011 advertised budget.

A motion was made by Council member Randy Buchta, seconded by Council member Thomas Schmidt and approved 6-0 to read the ordinance on first reading by title only. The ordinance was so read. Thereafter, a motion was made by Council member John Schroeder and seconded by Council member Ambrose 'Butch' Schitter to approve the ordinance on the first reading. Motion carried 6-0.

Under discussion, Financial Coordinator Sharon Sander said the property tax rate for the advertised budget is .7942 per \$100.00 of assessed value. This is the maximum rate that it can be for the 2010 pay 2011 year.

Rezone/Ordinance No. 2010-23. Mayor Schmitt said the Council needs to consider the proposal from Ronald R. Schneider Revocable Trust, Ronald R. Schneider Trustee to rezone 16.167 acres located at 445 Third Avenue from R-2 residential to R-4 residential.

Thereafter a motion was made by Council member Thomas Schmidt and seconded by Council member David Prechtel to accept the proposal to rezone the property and adopt the rezoning ordinance for such property and reference it Ordinance No. 2010-23. Motion carried 5-0. Council member Ambrose 'Butch' Schitter abstained from voting.

ORDINANCE NO. 2010-24 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JASPER, INDIANA, CONCERNING TREES

The purpose of this ordinance is to encourage the protection of existing trees along publicly-owned streets and on public grounds within the City.

A motion was made by Council member Ambrose 'Butch' Schitter, seconded by Council member Thomas Schmidt and approved 6-0 to consider the ordinance for one reading only. Thereafter, a motion was made by Council member Randy Buchta, seconded by Council member Thomas Schmidt and approved 6-0 to have the ordinance read by title only. The ordinance was so read. Thereafter, a motion was made by Council member Ambrose 'Butch' Schitter and seconded by Council member Ray Howard to pass and adopt Ordinance No. 2010-24. Motion carried 6-0.

Under discussion, City Attorney Sandra Hemmerlein said this ordinance comes as a recommendation from the Board of Public Works and Safety and from the Jasper City Park and Recreation Board. The City has been working with Patoka 2000 to become a Tree City, USA. Hemmerlein then summarized the content of the ordinance.

On behalf of the Jasper Chamber of Commerce and Patoka 2000, Nancy Eckerle, thanked the City for taking this step and moving forward to becoming a Tree City, USA.

ORDINANCE NO. 2010-25 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2008-10 ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE FIXING A SCHEDULE OF REVISED RATES AND CHARGES COLLECTED BY THE CITY OF JASPER, INDIANA, FROM THE OWNERS OF PROPERTY SERVED BY THE SEWAGE WORKS OF SAID CITY, AND OTHER MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH

This ordinance adjusts the debt service fee associated with the 2001 Sewer Extension Project.

A motion was made by Council member Thomas Schmidt and seconded by Council member Ambrose 'Butch' Schitter to read the ordinance by title only on first reading. Motion carried 6-0. The ordinance was so read. Thereafter, a motion was made by Council member Randy Buchta and seconded by Council member John Schroeder to approve the ordinance on the first reading. Motion carried 6-0.

Under discussion, City Attorney Sandra Hemmerlein said this amendment comes as a recommendation from the Utility Service Board. In conjunction with the rate study performed by Umbaugh, the City had them look at these rates to see if any new users were added. Four users were added thus reducing the debt service fee by 1.7%.

Adjournment. There being no further business to come before the board, a motion was made by Council member Thomas Schmidt and seconded by Council member Randy Buchta to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 6-0 and the meeting adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

The minutes were hereby approved ____ with X without corrections or clarification this 20th day of October, 2010.

Mayor William J. Schmitt
Presiding Officer

Attest:

Juanita S. Boehm, Clerk-Treasurer

Margaret A. Kress, Recording Secretary